करने और विशिष्ट कर्मचारियों का प्रबंध करने, जिसमें तकनीकी पहलुओं की जांच करने वाले तकनीकी कर्मचारी भी शामिल हैं की सलाह दी है। रुग्ण एककों की पुर्नस्थापना के लिए राज्य सरकारों के सचिव, उद्योग की अध्यक्षता में राज्य स्तरीय अन्तःसंस्थागत समितियां विद्यमान हैं।

Items brought under the Special Import Licence Scheme

3364. SHRI GYAN RANJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some items have been moved into free list from negative list of import;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of items which have recently been brought under the Special Import Licence Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. About 176 entries have been moved into the free list and 21 entries brought under the Special Import Licence Scheme list for rationalisation of the entries in the ITC(HS) of Export & Import items classifications/Book and also keeping in mind facilitation of trade amongst SAARC countries. Further details of these items are contained in the Ministry of Commerce Notification No. 4(RE-96)/92-97 dated 11.07.1996, 5(RE-96)/92—97 and 6(RE-96)92—97 both dated 13.08.1996, 7(RE-96)/92—97 dated 14.08.1996, 8(RE-96)/92—97 and 9(RE-96)/92—97, both dated 21.08.1996, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

New open sale policy of FCI

3365. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'new open sale policy' of Food Corporation of India has come under bitter criticism from the flour industry;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the flour mills industry allege skyrocketing prices of wheat by-products and flour;

(d) whether Government propose to take some action on suggestions of flour industry; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Some reports have appeared in the Press in this regard.

(b) FCI is primarily responsible for meeting the foodgrains requirement under PDS/RPDS and other Govt. sponsored welfare schemes. In case of excess stocks in the Central Pool, FCI however resorts from time to time to the sale of wheat and rice in the open market for the benefit of public at large. Wheat is a decontrolled commodity and since 1986, Roller Flour Mills are free to buy any quantity of wheat from the market anywhere in the country. The flour milling industry seems to be aggrieved with the restrictions on the quantity to be sold to one purchaser in a month.

(c) The prices of wheat products and flour are determined by the flour milling industry. However, wholesale price index of wheat products has moved as under:

(Base 1981-82=100)

Commodity	17.8.96(P)	20.7.96	25.5.96	2.3.96	19.8.95
Maida	281.9	277.5	262.2	256.9	248.7
Suji (Rawa)	259.9	263.6	238.5	234.4	222.1
Atta	342.7	328.3	304.2	315.3	300.8

P—Provisional

(d) and (e) The Govt. has reviewed the procedure of open sale and revised guidelines have been issued on 26.8.96. They include allotment by a three-member committee at the FCI region level on proper identification of the intending purchasers. The quantity to be sold to one purchaser in a month has also been reduced.

Subsidies given on Foodgrains

3366. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of subsidies proposed to be given on foodgrains to be distributed to the targeted groups under Public Distribution System;

(b) whether subsidies were given in the past in a similar way;

(c) if not, the purpose of giving the subsidies now;

(d) what would be the implication of this decision on national exchequer as well as state exchequer in 1996-97; and

(e) the Central assistance proposal to be sanctioned to the States to bear the burden of the subsidies?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (e) Central Government allocates foodgrains to States/UTs for PDS at Central Issue Prices (CIP) which are subsidised. The foodgrains for RPDS are allocated at especially subsidised Central Issue Prices which are Rs. 50 per quintal less than the Central Issue Prices for normal PDS areas. Central Government does not give further subsidies to States/UTs directly on foodgrains supplied through PDS/RPDS. The States/UTs are free to provide additional subsidies on their own. A proposal to streamline PDS with its focus on the population below the poverty line and issue foodgrains at specially subsidised rates is under consideration and details are being worked out.

Inadequate Staff in the Welfare Department

3367. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is inadequate staff in the Welfare Department for the proper implementation of the various schemes and programmes for the welfare of the minorities;

(b) if so, the full details thereof and the specific reasons therefor; and

(c) the necessary steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALAWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) No, Sir. The implementation of schemes and programmes is done by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations and various other agencies. Ministry of Welfare, Government of India, only issues sanctions and monitors schemes/programmes for which there is a separate Division equipped with adequate staff and officers.